

Date: Wed, 6 Jul 94 09:06:05 PDT
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V94 #751
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest Wed, 6 Jul 94 Volume 94 : Issue 751

Today's Topics:

Amateur calls on auto license plates? (3 msgs)
 Buying in the Far East (4 msgs)
Copying CW, and why it's friendlier than phone
 Does CW as a pre-req REALLY Work?
Equipment on board the Mir station
 Help with No Scratch mag mount
 IC229H
 Info-Hams Digest V94 #743
New York State's new ham license plates
 temperature conversion

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: 6 Jul 94 13:34:11 GMT
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu
Subject: Amateur calls on auto license plates?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

>I see a lot of vehicles with ham calls on their plates, but I am wary of
>doing this for fear that the specialized plates are a billboard to
>thieves that there might be expensive radio equipment in the vehicle.
>Any comments pro or con? Thanks! ---Dan, N9XDK

the radio antennas are a giveaway as well.

there are so many different plates in use today in florida, that the amateur

plate (in standard colors with standard background) doesn't appear all that different from the normal alphabet soup plate.

of course, a standard big chevy or ford with minimum trim and a couple of antennas on it screams "cop car!" so you could be more thief-resistant that way.

i don't suspect the standard thief would think a call plate to be anything different than a vanity plate. keeping other clues hidden might be a better approach (remote mounted radios, take the radio with you, disguise antennas, etc.)

bill wb9ivr

Date: 6 Jul 1994 13:33:14 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!math.ohio-state.edu!
news.acns.nwu.edu!usenet@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Amateur calls on auto license plates?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Fred Lloyd [Phoenix SE] writes
In article <2vbdpk\$8tm@vixen.cso.uiuc.edu> dhughes@prairienet.org (Dan
Hughes) writes:

>
>I see a lot of vehicles with ham calls on their plates, but I am wary of
>doing this for fear that the specialized plates are a billboard to
>thieves that there might be expensive radio equipment in the vehicle.
>
>Any comments pro or con? Thanks! ---Dan, N9XDK

I guess I'm the exception! I decided to change my plates to Ham plates when I purchased my last car. I had 2m and 10m rigs mounted (rather ridgedly) under the dash. My girlfriend at the time (now my wife) lived in a neighborhood of Chicago that boarded a rather gang ridden region (as most of the city is). One night as you might predict by now, theives broke into my car and basically made a big mess of things. The only thing they were able to steal was the 2m rig. Left behind was the 10m and the Car Stereo, both badly damaged. It wasn't such a big job to repair the radio's but rather puzzling why the idiots would break into a car and not have enough brains to remove 2 screws that held the entire 10m and 2m radio's. Idiots like that I assume would not have any concept what they were stealing or what it was worth. Additionally it looked like they became frustrated trying to steal the car radio and just decided to trash the radio's if they couldn't remove them.

I suggest if you might want to poll the demographics of those who respond to your request. It might help you to know what kind of car they drive (certain cars statistically draw more attention), what kinds of neighborhoods they primarily park in, do they park outside on public streets???? I'm sure there are other questions that need to be asked.

Overall, since that single incident I haven't had a problem, however I rarely go into questionable neighborhoods (we have moved) and I have installed a car alarm as well as having my window's tinted slightly, all to reduce my car's susceptibility to thieves.

david..... N9HAM

Date: 6 Jul 94 10:17:17 EST
From: agate!howland.reston.ans.net!math.ohio-state.edu!magnus.acs.ohio-state.edu!
cis.ohio-state.edu!pacific.mps.ohio-state.edu!ohstpy.mps.ohio-state.edu!miavx1!
miavx3.mid.muohio.edu!ihnp4.ucsd.edu
Subject: Amateur calls on auto license plates?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <2vbdpk\$8tm@vixen.cso.uiuc.edu>, dhughes@prairienet.org (Dan Hughes) writes:

> I see a lot of vehicles with ham calls on their plates, but I am wary of
> doing this for fear that the specialized plates are a billboard to
> thieves that there might be expensive radio equipment in the vehicle.
>
> Any comments pro or con? Thanks! ---Dan, N9XDK
> --

Such may be true but can one forever hide everything for fear of undesirables seeing it?

Considering the extensive number of "ham plates" in this country, I'd draw the conclusion that "not to worry".

Yup, I've had 'em since 1959.

73 >< Carl
K8NHE

Date: Wed, 6 Jul 1994 12:57:42 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!cs.utexas.edu!

gerald@cc.utexas.edu!portal.austin.ibm.com!awdprime.austin.ibm.com!
tadams@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Buying in the Far East
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

--

=====
* Tom Adams tadams@austin.ibm.com *
* 512-838-3815 FAX 512-838-3822 *
=====

Date: Wed, 6 Jul 1994 13:27:04 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!swrinde!cs.utexas.edu!gerald@cc.utexas.edu!
portal.austin.ibm.com!awdprime.austin.ibm.com!tadams@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Buying in the Far East
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <CsIs06.6FFr@austin.ibm.com> tadams@austin.ibm.com () writes:
>

>--

>=====
>* Tom Adams tadams@austin.ibm.com *
>* 512-838-3815 FAX 512-838-3822 *
>=====

The text was meant to be, "Are there any bargains left in Singapore or Tokyo.
I may get to go there next month. Thanks, Tom

--

=====
* Tom Adams tadams@austin.ibm.com *
* 512-838-3815 FAX 512-838-3822 *
=====

Date: Wed, 6 Jul 1994 13:29:03 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!swrinde!cs.utexas.edu!gerald@cc.utexas.edu!
portal.austin.ibm.com!awdprime.austin.ibm.com!tadams@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Buying in the Far East
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <CsIs06.6FFr@austin.ibm.com> tadams@austin.ibm.com () writes:
>

>--

>=====
>

>* Tom Adams tadams@austin.ibm.com *
>* 512-838-3815 FAX 512-838-3822 *
>=====

The text was supposed to read, Are there any bargains left in Singapore or Tokyo? I may get to go there next month. Thanks ,Tom

--
=====

* Tom Adams tadams@austin.ibm.com *
* 512-838-3815 FAX 512-838-3822 *
=====

Date: Wed, 6 Jul 1994 13:37:10 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!usc!cs.utexas.edu!gerald@cc.utexas.edu!
portal.austin.ibm.com!awdprime.austin.ibm.com!tadams@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Buying in the Far East
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <CsIs06.6FFr@austin.ibm.com> tadams@austin.ibm.com () writes:

>
>--
>=====

>* Tom Adams tadams@austin.ibm.com *
>* 512-838-3815 FAX 512-838-3822 *
>=====

The text was supposed to be, "Are there any bargains left in Tokyo or Singapore in the way of 2meter or hp transceivers? I may go there next month. Thanks, Tom

--
=====

* Tom Adams tadams@austin.ibm.com *
* 512-838-3815 FAX 512-838-3822 *
=====

Date: 6 Jul 1994 15:41:45 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!agate!usenet.ins.cwru.edu!eff!news.umbc.edu!haven.umd.edu!
cville-srv.wam.umd.edu!ham@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Copying CW, and why it's friendlier than phone
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

First of all, let me say that when I got my Novice back in 1984, I had

no radio, and essentially forgot the code until 1986, when I got an HF rig and put up an antenna in the attic. I started on 40 CW, and worked a few hundred before being confident enough to take the 20 wpm exam (yup, skipped right over 13). This took three months of working from 8 p.m. to midnight. And when I did the exam, I listened in my head, and wrote down what I deemed important - passed w/100%!

The problem is that people don't think of Morse as a language, they think of it as a cipher. And in actuality, it's some of both. For instance, I was told when learning French that you know the language when you no longer have to translate from English to French, speak your words, and then translate what you've heard back from French to English to understand.

But Morse isn't really a language, per se. But it IS a way of communicating ideas. For instance, what is "HIHI," or the "Shave and a haircut" thing? You don't have to translate to English for either of those. The same with "QTH," "QSB," or "QRM," or "73." When you hear "73" zip across the airwaves, do you actually decode "7" and then "3," "OH, 73! That's what that was!" I don't think so. "73" is "73."

Eventually, if you keep up with it, you start hearing suffixes (-ier, -est, -ing) and small words like "and, but, the, on, it, is..." Then come bigger words (not conglomerations of letters, but words) like "there, then, where, went, radio, amateur...). For instance, when you read this screen, do you read

E V E N T U A L L Y EVENTUALLY I F IF Y O U YOU
K E E P KEEP U P UP....

No, you don't if you can read English well. I recently found that upon listening to W1AW code practice, 35 was OK, 30 was solid, 25 was still solid, but 20 and down I COULD NOT COPY IN MY HEAD! They were TOO slow to remember what had been said at the beginning of each word, so I would forget by the end of the word!

Apparently I'm not the only one to have this happen to them. Ever talk to someone who talks REALLY slow, and forget the beginning of the sentence by the end?

Code requires a great deal of effort compared to phone, for most people. It's held in high regard as an ART form by many. Besides, how long would it take to say

"Get off this net frequency now, you stupid moron, it's here every day"

In phone it's about 3-5 seconds. CW, maybe 30 seconds (just tried

both). Being rude just ain't worth the time - besides, with 300 Hz bandwidth, you can always be notched out...

— —

73,

----- The
 \ / Long Original

Scott Rosenfeld	Amateur Radio NF3I	Burtonsville, MD		Live	\$5.00
WAC-CW/SSB	WAS DXCC - 125	OSLed on dipoles		Dipoles!	Antenna!

Date: 6 Jul 1994 14:57:36 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!usc!howland.reston.ans.net!vixen.cso.uiuc.edu!
newsfeed.ksu.ksu.edu!moe.ksu.ksu.edu!wizard.uark.edu!comp!plaws@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Does CW as a pre-req REALLY Work?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

domonkos@access.digex.net (Andy Domonkos) writes:

<stuff deleted>

> No radio amateur can say that CW is a really effective filter anymore.
>It's pathetic that the tests don't REALLY STRESS 'GOOD' operating practices.
>Make the test technically challenging, and make sure the individual knows
>his operating procedures. CW should be a mode of operation. I'm still

<stuff deleted>

My \$0.02 worth:

1) There is no "test" of CW skill. A virtual CW QSO is played. The candidate scribbles down as much as he can. S/he is then given a 10 question, multiple choice exam. Get 7/10 and you get a CSCE. I know, 'cause that's how I got my 13 wpm. (I had perfect copy for the 5 wpm, BTW, and could legitimately copy ~9-10 wpm when I took el 1B). Hardly random groups of 5 characters ...

2) There are, evidently, a lot of MDs that are willing to sign the Physician's Certification for el 1C. This observation is based on the fact that there are a *lot* of folks who seem to go from Tech to Extra in a matter of weeks. We call 'em instant Extras. Maybe, maybe not. Maybe it's the lack of a real CW test.

3) The Advanced and Extra writtens are the only ones that test any serious technical knowledge. They are also full of stuff about repeater control operation and satellite operation, privileges that hams receive at the entry-level.

Suggestions:

1) A "secret" question pool. The FAA analogy used to justify the PD ham radio question pool ignores the fact that there is no ham radio "ground school".

2) Simplify the license structure. How about:

+ Novice/Novice w/HF - an entry level with an HF option like Tech/Tech+ but without repeater control-op and just a subset of the thousands of MHz that the entry-level ham gets now and slivers of the HF bands.

+ General - like the current Advanced but with all frequencies (and repeater control-op). Kinda like the pre-"incentive"-license General.

+ Examiner - which would be the same as "General" but could examine new hams.

That would make 3 or 4 classes depending how you view the HF option on the Novice. Better than the current *six* and, IMHO, more logically organized.

3) Re-organize the question pools to include knowledge pertinent to the license class sought (instead of leaving satellite stuff until Extra, a privilege currently granted at the entry level).

Flame-proof suit on ...

73, (just one 73)

Peter Laws <plaws@comp.uark.edu> | "Let's make sure history never forgets the
n5uwy@ka5bml.#nwar.ar.usa.noam | name ... Enterprise" ST:TNG - 1987-1994

Date: Wed, 6 Jul 1994 14:17:38 EST

From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!swrinde!howland.reston.ans.net!EU.net!Germany.EU.net!
news.dfn.de!news.dfn.de!rrz.uni-koeIn.de!RRZ.Uni-KoeIn.DE!nntp.gmd.de!dearn!esoc!
pduque@network.ucsd.edu

Subject: Equipment on board the Mir station

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

On 03.10.94 starts the EUROMIR-94 mission. During thirty days, an astronaut of ESA (European Space Agency) will work in the Mir station.

I have unluckily being just nominated as backup, and the prime will be Ulf Merbold.

We have been having lessons on radio-amateur practice and will soon be

part of your group, probably with codes ending in MIR.

The equipment on board the MIR station, and specially the adaptor for packet communications, looks really "amateur". I would be very grateful if somebody could answer these questions:

Can one purchase commercial high-performance equipment for this purpose? If so, where to look for them?

Can one use standard modems with the right software?

What Internet-like address one has to use to communicate with a radio amateur through the packet link?

I would be willing to request from ESA the purchase of anything that would improve computer communications with Mir for our mission and the future ones.

Please answer, and be so kind to do it directly to my Internet-like address...my computer link in Star City is not so fast as to allow me to read Netnews every day.

My address is : PDUQUE@ESOC.BITNET

Is the 73 a "Best regards?"

Date: Tue, 5 Jul 94 08:49:00 -0400
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!gatech!concert!
hearst.acc.Virginia.EDU!pplace!pat.wilson@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Help with No Scratch mag mount
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

-> then there are those of us that use <clang!> parking <clang!> garages
-> <clang!> on <clang!> a <clang!> regular <clang!> basis.
->

HAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA, you must use the same garage I do.
HAHAHAHHA, <clang!>

NORDQ

Pat

-> --- eric
-> --
-> HOME: esj@harvee.billerica.ma.us HAM kaleec
-> WORK: esj@temerity.polaroid.com 617.386.4687
-> source of the public's fear of the unknown since 1956

Date: Tue, 05 Jul 94 19:46:52 -0700 (PDT)
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!agate!deep.rsoft.bc.ca!mindlink.bc.ca!a76@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: IC229H
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Hi Warren,

It's possible for what you say to be true, but then why bother to have a lithium batter in there if you're gonna keep on drawing current even when shut off... I don't think it would make sense to do that... But at this point I might give it a try. I'll post anything that happens.

Sam_Oben@mindlink.bc.ca
or
Cabot@shoreline.ca

Date: 6 Jul 94 12:52:59 GMT
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V94 #743
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

> Date: Mon, 4 Jul 94 22:44:26 -0500
> From: news.delphi.com!usenet@uunet.uu.net
> Subject: New-style NY ham plates?
> To: info-hams@ucsd.edu
>
> I read somewhere a few months ago that New York was about to introduce new,
> "distinctive", ham call license plates. Has anyone heard when this is going
> to happen? Will current ham-plate holders be notified automatically?
>
> John Kent - AA2DY
> Hopewell Junction, NY
>
John,

I ordered the new plates a few months ago and just checked with DMV last week on the status. They are still waiting for official approval for the new design and are not issuing new plates. The person I talked to did not when the approval would be. If you want to order the new plates here is what I did: sent a letter requesting the new ham plates along with a photo copy of my ham license, a photo copy of my car's registration, and \$18.00 to

Ellen Catalano, Supervisor
Special Registration Section
NYS Department of Motor Vehicles
Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY 12228

If you want to call the phone number is 518 474 6841.

For those who already have the old design, these new plates are NOT OPTIONAL. When the new plates are ready, present holders will be sent notices indicating the availability and what to do to obtain them. Then the plates will be mailed upon receipt of the necessary items.

I got my information from "The Intermod" (Rochester Radion Repeater Association's monthly newsletter and the Special Registration Section of the DMV.

Good Luck

Tom Jennings, kv2x

Date: 6 Jul 94 13:05:07 GMT
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu
Subject: New York State's new ham license plates
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

> Date: Mon, 4 Jul 94 22:44:26 -0500
> From: news.delphi.com!usenet@uunet.uu.net
> Subject: New-style NY ham plates?
> To: info-hams@ucsd.edu
>
> I read somewhere a few months ago that New York was about to introduce new,
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> to happen? Will current ham-plate holders be notified automatically?
>

> John Kent - AA2DY
> Hopewell Junction, NY
>

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Ellen Catalano, Supervisor
Special Registration Section
NYS Department of Motor Vehicles
Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY 12228

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I got my information from "The Intermod" (Rochester Radion Repeater Association's monthly newsletter and the Special Registration Section of the DMV.

Good Luck

Tom Jennings, kv2x

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-----
Thomas J. Jennings      | Tel: (716) 273 7071
Development Engineer    | Fax: (716) 273 7262
                        |
ABB Process Automation  |
Post Office Box 22685   |
Rochester, New York 14692-2685 |
                        |
-----
```

Internet: jennings@jennings.rochny.uspra.abb.com

Date: 6 Jul 94 13:23:12 GMT
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu
Subject: temperature conversion
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

>Now if the USA would only get with the program and go metric.

yeah, but we need to do away with the rules that say if you have a road sign for 55 MPH that you will be allowed to round up or round down to the nearest 5 kph boundary instead of having to post signs that read 88 kph. (fallout from the 1970's national speed limit laws, i was told).

it will never catch on as long as we have to do limits 88 and not 85 or 90.

and i recall the same rules apply to other speed limits as well so you have to drive at "complex" speed limits in mind rather than round numbers.

the other big conversion time would have been during the initial run up of gas prices when gas stations went to liter measurement in order to get a set of units that would work for \$1/gal pricing on computers not able to process such large sums. Just would have had to say "no price limits on gas sold by the liter" and the industry would have changed in a heartbeat.

as it is, everyone has electronic pumps now that can probably handle pricing in the hundreds of dollars/gallon pricing range so we'll never have that chance again...

bill wb9ivr

Date: 6 Jul 1994 10:28:12 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!swrinde!howland.reston.ans.net!math.ohio-state.edu!
magnus.acs.ohio-state.edu!csn!news.sinet.slb.com!news.San-Jose.ate.slb.com!
jones@network.ucsd.edu
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <2v4851\$sch@news.tamu.edu>, <1994Jul2.183857.25279@rgfn.epcc.edu>,
<1994Jul3.113534.1@woods.uml.edu>-sta
Subject : Re: ZIA NET FREQ's

JJ Martin (martinja@woods.uml.edu) wrote:

: In article <1994Jul2.183857.25279@rgfn.epcc.edu>, ab728@rgfn.epcc.edu
: (Bill Lindberg) writes:

: > Robert E. O'Connell (oconnell@leviathan.tamu.edu) wrote:

: > : Would someone please post or send me a list of the freq's from West Texas
: > : to Tucson, Pheonix and points north.

: >

: > All i know is the one in Albuquerque, it's 145.29, -.6 with a 100 Htz tone
: > (I think). I would also like to see a list posted If anyone would care to
: [...]

: Although I am living in Massachusetts right now (and wishing I could hit the

: ZIA from here...hi hi) I lived in Alamogordo, NM for three years and left
: a year ago. Retired from the Air Force don't ya know.... :)

: Anyhoo, El Paso's entrance into the link was on 145.33. No tone required.
: From Alamogordo you could hit Caballo Peak or Benson Ridge. Their freqs are
: 145.10 and 145.23 respectively. 162.2 Hz tone if I recall correctly.
: Tell everyone I say hi when you get onto the ZIA. Thanks.

Unluckily, I'm about 750 miles from my map at the moment, but I can fill
in a couple: Two repeaters in the system, White Tanks Mountains (just west
of Phoenix, and covers into CA) and Green's Peak (in AZ, near the NM border
about 60 miles south of I-40) are both on 146.70 with an offset of -600 KHz.
All repeaters permanently in the system except El Paso require 162.2 CTCSS
(often referred to as "PL", but that's a Motorola Trademark).

73,
Clark

--

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed above are mine and not those of Schlumberger
because they are NOT covered by the patent agreement!

Phone: (602) 345-3638 Internet: jones@San-Jose.ate.slb.com
Packet: KI7TU@K7BUC.AZ.USA.NA RF: KI7TU
Snail: Clark Jones, Schlumberger Technologies, 7855 S. River Pkwy #116, Tempe,
AZ 85284-1825

End of Info-Hams Digest V94 #751
